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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/766,826	01/30/2004	Yung Che Fang	BHT-3244-26	3855

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EXAMINER

WRIGHT, INGRID D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/766,826

Applicant(s)

FANG ET AL.

Examiner

Ingrid Wright

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Rejections

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doczy et al. (US PN 6,788,527 B2)

With respect to claim 1, Doczy et al. teaches a data-inputting device (14), a combining seat (180) having a pivotal base (182) to the side edge of the data-inputting device (14). The seat includes two guiding arms (184, 186) and a connector (188). Tablet (12) has a receiving cavity (68,70) and a mating connector (78) on the bottom thereof corresponding to the seat (180). The Tablet (12) of Doczy et al. can be in a face-direction or opposite direction and can be separated from the data-inputting device (14) (see, for example, col. 11, lines 4-16).

Doczy et al. fails to disclose a second connector on the seat of the data-inputting device (14). Doczy et al. teaches only one connector in the center allowing the tablet to be connected in both directions.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the singular connector of Doczy et al. with a pair of connectors at opposite ends of the base as an alternate means of allowing a tablet to be connected in both forward and rearward direction. Two connectors would allow for interconnections with a tablet whose connector is off center.

With respect to claim 2, Doczy et al. teaches a user input section (200) that may comprise keyboard buttons, a pointing device and a variety of other user interactive features (col. 10, lines 62-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include a touchpad on the input section to provide the user with variable input means. With respect to the shape of the data-inputting device, Doczy et al. appears to be of a uniform thickness. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a data input device on an incline to allow for a more ergonomically correct keypad design and thus, potentially reduce the effect of carpal tunnel syndrome in the user.

With respect to claim 3, Doczy et al. teaches the guiding arms (184,186) having hooking devices at the upper portions thereof (col. 10, lines 31-34).

With respect to claim 4, Doczy et al. teaches the hooking devices, located at upper portions of the guiding arms (184,186), which correspond to hooking grooves in

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the receiving cavity (68,70). Doczy et al. further discloses that any suitable interlock and release mechanism may be used (col. 10, lines 31-37).

Doczy et al. fails to teach a sliding button mounted on a side surface of the base portion (182) and a hook connected with the sliding button.

With respect to the specific location of the release mechanism, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize a sliding button as a mechanism for releasing the Tablet (12) from the base (182) of Doczy et al. and to place such a mechanism at any location on the base convenient to the user.

With respect to claim 5, the guiding arms (184,186) of Doczy et al. have a recess located below the hook portions for guiding and retaining the Tablet (12) (see for example, curved area near lead lines of 184, 186 in Fig. 10).

With respect to the shape of the recess being a "U" it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize any shape that would allow the hook to engage the retaining groove portions of the Tablet (12).

With respect to claim 6, Doczy et al. teaches a connector (188) that is connectable with the communications port (78) of the Tablet (12). In operation, the communications port (78) and a connector (188) transmit communications between the Tablet (12) and the keyboard (14) (col. 10, lines 42-46).

Claims 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doczy et al. (US PN 6,788,527 B2) in view of Honda (US PN 5,751,547).

With respect to claim 7, the guiding arms (184, 186) act as positioning posts for the Tablet (12) of Doczy et al. (col. 10, line 32-34).

Doczy et al. fails to teach separate devices acting as positioning post in addition to the guiding arms (184,186).

Honda et al. teaches positioning posts on either side of a connector (132) (see for example, Fig. 3) that correspond to positioning holes in the bottom of the Tablet (12) (see, for example Fig. 26).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide additional positioning posts, as taught by Honda et al. in the Tablet (12) of Doczy et al. and thus, provide better alignment between the connector of the Tablet (12) and the connector of the base.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shimano et al. and Chiang et al. show the general state of the art regarding tablet and laptop configurations.

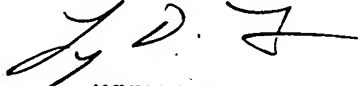
Any inquiry concerning this communication of earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ingrid Wright whose telephone is 571-272-8392. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Field can be reached on 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pairedirect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

IDW


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